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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/765,809	01/27/2004	Aniruddha Sane	15158US01	2452
23446	7590	08/18/2009		EXAMINER
MCANDREWS HELD & MALLOY, LTD			WONG, ALLEN C	
500 WEST MADISON STREET			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
SUITE 3400			2621	
CHICAGO, IL 60661				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary		Application No.	Applicant(s)
10/765,809		SANE, ANIRUDDHA	
Examiner	Art Unit		
Allen Wong	2621		

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If no period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 May 2009.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1,4-6,8-10,15-17,22 and 23 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) 10,15-17,22 and 23 is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1,4,5,8 and 9 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 6 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 27 January 2004 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed 5/6/09 with respect to claims 1, 4, 5, 8 and 9 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

The minor objection to claims 6 and 10 is withdrawn.

The 35 U.S.C.101 rejection is withdrawn.

Claim 6 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 10, 15-17, 22 and 23 are patentable over the prior art.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1, 4, 5, 8 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wada (2003/0026487) in view of Nagai (5,852,469).

Regarding claim 1, Wada discloses a method for decoding an encoded video data stream, the method comprising:

receiving, at a decoder (fig.7, element 13), a first portion of an encoded two-dimensional block of pixel data immediately followed by a second encoded two-dimensional block of pixel data, the second block followed by another portion of the

encoded two-dimensional block of pixel data (paragraph [0044], fig.7, element 13 is a variable length decoder that receives portions of block data that includes the stored encoded two-dimensional block of pixel data as noted with luminance blocks Y0, Y1, Y2, Y3 and chrominance blocks Cr and Cb, and that Y0 block can be considered the first portion of the encoded two-dimensional pixel block, and the Y1 block can be considered the second two-dimensional block, and Y2 block is another portion of the encoded two-dimensional pixel block, wherein blocks Y0, Y1, Y2, Y3, Cr, and Cb are two-dimensional 8x8 pixel blocks as illustrated in fig.3 and paragraph [0042]); and decoding the video data stream (fig.7, element 13 decodes the video data stream, see paragraph [0045]).

Wada discloses receiving the encoded two-dimensional block of pixel data is immediately followed by the another portion of the encoded two-dimensional block of pixel data (paragraph [0044], fig.7, element 13 is a variable length decoder that receives portions of block data that includes the stored encoded two-dimensional block of pixel data as noted with luminance blocks Y0, Y1, Y2, Y3 and chrominance blocks Cr and Cb, and that Y0 block can be considered the first portion of the encoded two-dimensional pixel block, and the Y1 block can be considered the second two-dimensional block, and Y2 block is another portion of the encoded two-dimensional pixel block, wherein blocks Y0, Y1, Y2, Y3, Cr, and Cb are two-dimensional 8x8 pixel blocks as illustrated in fig.3 and paragraph [0042]). Wada does not disclose generating a concatenated video data stream comprising the first portion and the second portion. However, Nagai discloses the generation of concatenating video data stream

comprising the first portion and the second portion (col.18, ln.1-10, in fig.18, Nagai discloses the region reordering table 1103 for reordering regions of the encoded image data for display as one whole image, and the output of element 1103 is used to influence the image signal reorderer 1119 to yield the display output for viewing; col.18, ln.45-65, Nagai discloses the coding and decoding of two layers, the upper and lower layers for coding the video image data; col.20, ln.31-39, in fig.15, Nagai discloses the first embodiment of fig.7 shows the encoding of image data by splitting the regions of the image data and later when decoding the image data in fig.18, the upper layer and lower layer is reunited for viewing at the display output). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teachings of Wada and Nagai, as a whole, for accurately, efficiently decoding image data so as to preserve high image quality (Nagai col.5, ln.28-33).

Regarding claim 4, Wada discloses storing the first portion of the encoded two-dimensional block of pixel data in a first memory region (paragraph [0044], note the blocks Y0, Y1, Y2, Y3, Cr, Cb are stored into memory units 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, respectively); and storing the second encoded two-dimensional block of pixel data in the first region of memory (paragraph [0044] , note the blocks Y0, Y1, Y2, Y3, Cr, Cb are stored into memory units 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, respectively); and storing another portion of the encoded two-dimensional of pixel data in a second region of memory (paragraph [0044] , note the blocks Y0, Y1, Y2, Y3, Cr, Cb are stored into memory units 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, respectively).

Regarding claim 5, Wada discloses wherein storing the first portion of the encoded data and the second portion of the encoded data further comprises: storing the first portion and the second portion of the encoded two-dimensional block of pixels or the second encoded two-dimensional block of pixel data in the first region until either a predetermined number of bytes of the first or second portion are stored in the first region or an end of block indicator is received (paragraph [0044], note the blocks Y0, Y1, Y2, Y3, Cr, Cb are stored into memory units 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, respectively, also note in fig.6, note there are end of block indicators EOBS present); and if an end of block indicator is received storing the remainder first portion and the second portion of the encoded two-dimensional block of pixels or the second encoded two-dimensional block of pixel data (paragraph [0043], Wada discloses storing the remainder of the two-dimensional pixel encoded data if an EOB indicator is received).

Regarding claim 8, Wada discloses receiving input from the decoder, the input associated with the size of the decoded video data stream (paragraph [0044], fig.7, element 13 is a variable length decoder that receives portions of block data that includes the stored encoded two-dimensional block of pixel data as noted with luminance blocks Y0, Y1, Y2, Y3 and chrominance blocks Cr and Cb, and that Y0 block can be considered the first portion of the encoded two-dimensional pixel block, and the Y1 block can be considered the second two-dimensional block, and Y2 block is another portion of the encoded two-dimensional pixel block, wherein blocks Y0, Y1, Y2, Y3, Cr, and Cb are two-dimensional 8x8 pixel blocks as illustrated in fig.3 and paragraph [0042], and that the size of the decoded video data is obtained).

Regarding claim 9, Wada discloses wherein the input determines the amount of video data stream to be serially outputted to the decoder (paragraph [0044], Wada discloses the first portion of the encoded video stream is received at element 13).

Veltman does not specifically disclose the concatenated video data stream. However, Nagai discloses the generation of concatenating video data stream comprising the first portion and the second portion (col.18, ln.1-10, in fig.18, Nagai discloses the region reordering table 1103 for reordering regions of the encoded image data for display as one whole image, and the output of element 1103 is used to influence the image signal reorderer 1119 to yield the display output for viewing; col.18, ln.45-65, Nagai discloses the coding and decoding of two layers, the upper and lower layers for coding the video image data; col.20, ln.31-39, in fig.15, Nagai discloses the first embodiment of fig.7 shows the encoding of image data by splitting the regions of the image data and later when decoding the image data in fig.18, the upper layer and lower layer is reunited for viewing at the display output). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teachings of Wada and Nagai, as a whole, for accurately, efficiently decoding image data so as to preserve high image quality (Nagai col.5, ln.28-33).

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 6 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 10, 15-17, 22 and 23 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for indicating allowable subject matter: The prior art does not disclose wherein the generating a concatenated encoded video stream comprises: (b1) serially outputting from the first memory region to a concatenator until either the predetermined number of bytes are received or the end of block indicator is received; (b2) if the predetermined number of bytes is serially output during step b1, serially outputting from the second memory region to the concatenator until an end of block indicator is received; (b3) repeating steps b1 and b2, as disclosed in claim 6. Also, the prior art does not specifically disclose the combination of limitations as disclosed in claim 10: a system for decoding an encoded video data stream, the data stream comprising a plurality of encoded blocks of data pixels and a plurality of end of block indicators, the system comprising: an input for receiving the encoded video data stream comprising the plurality of encoded blocks of data pixels and the plurality of end of block indicators; a first memory buffer for storing either portions of the encoded video data stream of predetermined size or until the portions of the encoded video data stream until the portions include an end of block indicator received at the input; a second memory buffer for storing remainders of portions when the portions include an end of block indicator received at the input; a concatenator for concatenating from the first memory buffer and the second memory buffer, wherein the concatenator serially outputs data from the first memory buffer until either a predetermined number of bytes are serially output or an end of block is encountered and if the predetermined number of bytes are serially output from the first buffer, serially outputting from the second buffer

until an end of buffer indicator is received, to obtain a concatenated video data stream; and a decoder for decoding the concatenated video data stream.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

3. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Allen Wong whose telephone number is (571) 272-7341.

The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays to Thursdays from 8am-6pm
Flextime.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mehrdad Dastouri can be reached on (571) 272-7418. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Allen Wong
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2621

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8/17/09